

REMARKS

Further to the After Final Amendment of August 31, 2009, the Interview Summary of September 15, 2009, and an Advisory Action of September 14, 2009, Applicant submits a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) and this Preliminary Amendment within the three (3) month time frame of the July 29, 2009, Office Action. Accordingly, a Petition for Extension of Time is not required. The RCE is required to permit the Examiner an opportunity to perform a final prior/related art search before allowing the instant Application consistent with the Interview of August 21, 2009, and the related amendments to independent claim 5. Applicant submits that this Preliminary Amendment amends Claims 6, 7 and 8 but does not amend Claims 5, 9, 10, 15 and 16 of the previously referenced After Final Amendment. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

It is noted that the Preliminary Amendment is made only to more particularly define the invention and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, for narrowing the scope of the claims, or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability. It is further noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicants' intent is to encompass equivalents of all claims, even if amended herein or amended during prosecution.

Early, favorable prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayment to Attorney's Deposit Account

Number 50-1114.

Respectfully submitted,

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September



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